

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 210826Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6866

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, TZ, RH, SF, NI

SUBJECT: NYERERE STOPOVER IN LAGOS

1. TANZANIAN PRESIDENT NYERERE MADE SHORT STOP HERE
SEPTEMBER 18 EN ROUTE TO INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS IN GUINEA
BISSAU. FOLLOWING REPORTEDLY ONE AND A HALF HOUR SESSION WITH
HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO, NYERERE MET WITH PRESS DURING WHICH
HE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

--IN RESPONSE TO QUERY ON ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN HIGH
COMMAND (A PERENNIAL QUESTION HERE), NYERERE SAID HE
OBJECTED TO DIRECT MILITARY INVOLVEMENT OF OAU MEMBERS
IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBERATION WARS WITHOUT PRIOR INVITA-
TION OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS. MOZAMBIQUE, ANGOLA AND GUINEA
BISSAU HAD WON THEIR FREEDOM WITHOUT ANY AFRICAN ARMY;
--AFRICAN STATES SHOULD MAXIMIZE AID TO NATIONALISTS SO

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THEY CAN LIBERATE THEMSELVES. IT IS UP TO NATIONALISTS

TO SAY WHAT KINE OF ASSISTANCE THEY NEED--THEY HAVE
NOT DONE THIS UP TO NOW;
--SUPER POWERS HOULD NOT INTERJECT THEIR "CONFRONTATIONAL
COMPETITION FOR DOMINATION" INTO SOUTHERN AFRICA. SUCH
COULD LEAD TO THIRD WORLD WAR. AFRICAN WOULD NOT HESITATE
TO FIGHT TO LAST MAN IF BIG POWERS TRIED TO EXPLOIT
SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION AS MEANS TO TEST THEIR MILITARY
MIGHT IN BID TO ACQUIRE TERRITORY.

2. COMMENT. THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON SUBSTANCE
NYERERE-OBASANJO TALKS. MEA AFRICA DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL TOLD
POLCOUNS THAT NYERERE VISIT WAS PURELY STOPOVER AFFAIR,
IMPLYING THAT NOTHING SPECIAL OCCURRED AT TWO LEADERS' MEETING.
HOWEVER, WE ASSUME NYERERE FOUND IT POLITIC WHILE HE WAS IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD TO CONFER WITH NIGERIA'S LEADER. FMG UNDOUBTEDLY
WAS HAPPY TO HAVE FIRST HAND ACCOUNT OF LATEST FRONT LINE
DEVELOPMENTS AND TO HEAR TANZANIAN PRESIDENT'S IMPRESSIONS OF
SECRETARY'S ACTIVITIES.
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